

AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS:

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions and listings of claims in the application:

1. (Currently Amended) A method ~~Method~~ for the analysis ~~analysing~~ of samples in connection with acute cardiovascular diseases, comprising wherein the method comprises the following steps:
 - (a) obtaining a biological sample to be analysed ~~from a subject~~;
 - (b) determining ~~of~~ the concentration of at least one marker selected from soluble CD40-ligand (sCD40L), PAPP-A, and PIGF;
 - (c) optionally, determining ~~of~~ the concentration of at least one additional marker selected from troponin T (TnT), MPO, NT-proBNP, VEGF, BNP, and ~~additional~~ inflammatory markers; and
 - (d) comparing the results ~~result/s~~ obtained for the said biological sample ~~to be analysed~~ with at least one reference value/s ~~and/or the values from reference sample~~ samples.
2. (Currently Amended) The method ~~Method~~ according to claim 1, wherein at least one of the sample to be analysed ~~and/or~~ and the reference sample is derived from a human.

3. (Currently Amended) The method ~~Method~~ according to claim 1 ~~or 2~~, wherein the sample to be analysed is selected from the group consisting of peripheral blood or fractions thereof, and cell culture suspensions or fractions thereof.
4. (Currently Amended) The method ~~Method~~ according to claim 3, wherein the sample to be analysed is blood plasma.
5. (Currently Amended) The method ~~Method~~ according to claim 3, wherein a coagulation inhibitor, ~~in particular heparin~~, is added to the peripheral blood.
6. (Currently Amended) The method ~~Method~~ according to claim 1 ~~any of claims 1 to 5~~, wherein the ~~additional~~ inflammatory markers are selected from CRP, (hs)CRP, and IL-10.
7. (Currently Amended) The method ~~Method~~ according to claim 1 ~~any of claims 1 to 5~~, wherein the analysed markers and combinations thereof are selected from sCD40L; PAPP-A; PIGF; sCD40L + TnT; PAPP-A + TnT; PIGF + TnT; sCD40L + PAPP-A; sCD40L + PIGF; PAPP-A + PIGF; sCD40L + PAPP-A + TnT; sCD40L + PIGF + TnT; PAPP-A + PIGF + TnT; sCD40L + PAPP-A + PIGF; and sCD40L + PAPP-A + PIGF + TnT.

8. (Currently Amended) The method ~~Method~~ according to claim 7, further comprising determining the concentration ~~the analysis~~ of at least one of the markers MPO, NT-proBNP, BNP, CRP, (hs)CRP, and IL-10.

9. (Currently Amended) The method ~~Method~~ according to claim 1 ~~any of claims 1 to 5~~, wherein the ~~analysed~~ markers and combinations thereof are selected from CRP, TnT, PAPP-A; CRP, TnT, PAPP-A, IL-10; CRP, TnT, PAPP-A, IL-6, sCD40L, and TnT, PAPP-A, IL-10, sCD40L, VEGF.

10. (Currently Amended) The method ~~Method~~ according to claim 1 ~~any of claims 1 to 9~~, wherein ~~said determining of the concentration of the at least one marker is~~ determined occurs by means of an immunological method by means of marker-binding molecules.

11. (Currently Amended) The method ~~Method~~ according to claim 10 ~~any of claims 1 to 5~~, wherein said marker-binding molecules are selected from the group consisting of anti-marker-antibodies or parts thereof, and marker-receptors or parts thereof.

12. (Currently Amended) The method ~~Method~~ according to claim 11, wherein said antibodies, or parts ~~or fragments~~ thereof ~~comprise~~ are polyclonal antibodies, monoclonal antibodies, Fab-fragments, scFv-fragments, and or diabodies.

13. (Currently Amended) The method ~~Method~~ according to claim 11 ~~or 12~~, wherein said at least one marker ~~and/or~~ or said marker-binding molecules are present in solution or are matrix-immobilised.

14. (Currently Amended) The method ~~Method~~ according to claim 11 ~~any of claims 11 to 13~~, wherein said marker-binding molecules ~~binding~~ bind to sCD40L and are coupled to one or several detection groups selected from the group consisting of fluoresceinthioisocyanate, phycoerythrine, an enzyme, and magnetic beads.

15. (Currently Amended) The method ~~Method~~ according to claim 11 ~~any of claims 11 to 14~~, wherein said marker-binding molecules are detected with an antibody to which one or several detection groups are coupled.

16. (Currently Amended) The method ~~Method~~ according to claim 10 ~~any of claims 11 to 15~~, wherein the immunological methods are selected from the group consisting of sandwich-enzyme-immunoassays, ELISA, and solid phase immunoassays.

17. (Currently Amended) The method ~~Method~~ according to claim 1 ~~any of claims 1 to 16~~, wherein said cardiovascular diseases are selected from the group consisting of unstable angina, myocardial infarction, acute coronary syndromes, coronary arterial disease, and heart insufficiency.

18. (Currently Amended) A diagnostic ~~Diagnostic~~ kit, comprising means for performing the method according to claim 1 ~~any of claims 1 to 17~~, optionally together with additional components ~~and/or~~ or excipients.

19. (Currently Amended) The diagnostic ~~Diagnostic~~ kit according to claim 18, comprising gold labelled polyclonal mouse-indicator antibodies, biotinylated polyclonal detection antibodies and a testing device, ~~comprising~~ wherein said testing device comprises a fiberglass-fleece.

20. (Currently Amended) A ~~Use of the method according to any of claims 1 to 19~~ for a the ~~diagnosis and/or~~ or prognosis of acute cardiovascular diseases ~~and/or~~ or for the monitoring of their therapies comprising:

- (a) obtaining a biological sample to be analysed;
- (b) determining the concentration of at least one inflammatory marker selected from soluble CD40-ligand (sCD40L), PAPP-A, and PIGF;
- (c) optionally, determining the concentration of at least one additional marker selected from troponin T (TnT), MPO, NT-proBNP, VEGF, BNP, and inflammatory markers;
- (d) comparing the results obtained for said biological sample with at least one reference sample; and
- (e) diagnosing or prognosing an acute cardiovascular disease or monitoring the therapy of an acute cardiovascular disease.

21. (Currently Amended) The method Use according to claim 20, wherein said therapy comprises the administration of at least one of statins and statines, and/or inhibitors of the glycoprotein IIb/III-receptor.

22. (New) The method according to claim 5, wherein the coagulation inhibitor is heparin.

23. (New) The method of claim 20, wherein the cardiovascular disease is selected from the group consisting of unstable angina, myocardial infarction, acute coronary syndromes, coronary arterial disease, and heart insufficiency.